

## O'CONNOR – PATENT APPLICATION

### WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of forming a barrier on a surface of treated lumber, comprising:  
  
providing a flexible composite strip formed of a fibrous layer, an adhesive layer, an impermeable barrier layer, a moldable layer with an adhesive property, wherein the moldable layer is applied at a coating weight of at least about 185 grams per square meter, and a release sheet releasably secured to the moldable layer,  
  
removing at least a portion of the release sheet to expose at least a portion of the moldable layer; and  
  
applying the composite strip to the surface of the treated lumber to form an adhesive bond and a mechanical interlock between the composite strip and the surface of the treated lumber.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the barrier layer is provided as a foil sheet.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the moldable layer is provided as a pressure sensitive adhesive.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of providing the strip further comprises rolling the flexible composite strip.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein removing at least a portion of the release sheet includes removing a generally centered guide strip to expose a small strip of the moldable layer.
6. A method of creating a dermal barrier on treated lumber in an outdoor environment, comprising the steps of providing instructions for:  
  
providing a flexible composite strip formed of a fibrous layer, an adhesive layer, an impermeable flaccid foil barrier layer, a moldable layer with an adhesive property, and a release sheet releasably secured to the moldable layer,  
  
removing at least a portion of the release sheet to expose at least a portion of the moldable layer; and  
  
applying the composite strip to the surface of the treated lumber to form an adhesive bond and a mechanical interlock between the composite strip and the surface of

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the treated lumber and create an impermeable dermal barrier over the surface of the treated lumber.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the moldable layer is applied at a coating weight of at least about 185 grams per square meter.

8. The method of claim 6, wherein removing at least a portion of the release sheet includes removing a narrow positioning strip relative to the remaining portion of the release sheet to guide an installation of the composite strip.

9. The method of claim 6, wherein the composite strip includes indicia indicative of direction of carpet pile and applying the composite strip includes orienting the composite strip based on the indicia.

10. A method comprising:

providing a treated wooden board having a wood treatment material impregnated therein;

providing a layer of a fibrous floor covering material having a fibrous front surface and a back surface;

providing an adhesive layer adhesively attached to the back surface of the fibrous layer;

providing an attachment layer having a bottom surface with an adhesive property for attaching the fibrous floor covering material to the wooden board;

attaching the attachment layer to a surface of the wooden board so as to attach the back surface of the fibrous floor covering material to the surface of the board; and

preventing migration of the wood treatment material from the board to the fibrous floor covering material by providing between the attachment layer and the adhesive layer an impermeable barrier layer which is impermeable to the wood treatment material and is secured to the back surface of the fibrous layer by the adhesive layer so as to substantially cover the entire back surface of the fibrous layer.

11. The method according to claim 10 wherein the layer of fibrous floor covering material, the adhesive layer, the attachment layer and the impermeable barrier layer form a

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composite strip that is elongated with a predetermined length sufficient to form a rolled supply and has a predetermined width arranged to match the width of the wooden board.

12. The method according to claim 10 wherein the attachment layer has the following properties:

it is water impermeable;

it is non-absorbent of water;

it is substantially incompressible in the thickness direction.

13. The method according to claim 10 wherein the attachment layer is arranged in thickness and in characteristics such that it is plastically deformable and, after attachment, the attachment layer is plastically deformed into engagement with discontinuities in the treated wooden board on application of pressure thereto through the fibrous layer.

14. The method according to claim 10 including arranging the fibrous layer, the impermeable layer and the attachment layer so as to allow side to side flexibility thereof to allow bending of the layers to match a bowed treated wooden board.

15. The method according to claim 10 including arranging the impermeable layer so as to be flaccid and to provide no resistance to bending of the fibrous layer and the attachment layer from a rolled condition to a flat condition for attachment to a generally flat surface of the board and to follow generally any undulations in the flat surface.

16. The method according to claim 10 wherein the attachment layer is applied at a coating weight per unit area of greater than 185 grams/sq meter.

17. The method according to claim 10 wherein the attachment layer is applied at a coating weight per unit area of greater than 300 grams/sq meter.

18. The method according to claim 10 wherein total material applied in the attachment layer and in between the barrier layer and the layer of fibrous floor covering material is applied at a coating weight per unit area of greater than 300 grams/sq meter.

19. The method according to claim 10 wherein total material applied in the attachment layer and in between the barrier layer and the layer of fibrous floor covering material is applied at a coating weight per unit area of greater than 400 grams/sq meter.

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20. The method according to claim 10 wherein total material applied in the attachment layer and in between the barrier layer and the layer of fibrous floor covering material is applied at a coating weight per unit area of greater than 600 grams/sq meter.
21. The method according to claim 10 wherein the barrier layer is foil.
22. The method according to claim 10 wherein the barrier layer is foil supported on a plastic film.
23. The method according to claim 10 wherein the barrier layer is encapsulated between the adhesive layer and the attachment layer by an interconnection of the edges of the adhesive layer and the attachment layer at the edges of the barrier layer.
24. The method according to claim 10 wherein the layer of a fibrous floor covering material with the adhesive layer, the barrier layer and the attachment layer form a composite strip which is supplied in a roll with a release sheet on the attachment layer, and with the composite strip and the release sheet rolled with the release sheet on the outside.
25. The method according to claim 24 wherein the release sheet is formed of a tear-resistant plastics material.
26. The method according to claim 10 wherein the layer of a fibrous floor covering material with the adhesive layer, the barrier layer and the attachment layer form a composite strip with a release sheet on the attachment layer, wherein the release sheet is divided into a plurality of release strip portions including a positioning strip release portion and a remaining strip release portion, said positioning strip release portion covering and defining a positioning portion of the attachment layer extending longitudinally along the strip which is removed to expose the positioning portion for initial attachment of the composite strip to an elongate board, and said remaining strip release portion covering and defining a remaining portion of the attachment layer extending longitudinally along the strip which is removed subsequent to the said positioning strip release portion to expose the remaining portion for subsequent attachment of the composite strip to an elongate board.
27. The method according to claim 26 wherein the remaining portion exposed by removing said remaining strip release portion is wider than the positioning portion exposed by removing said positioning strip release portion.

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28. The method according to claim 26 wherein the positioning strip release portion has a side edge which overlaps with and covers a side edge of the remaining strip release portion so as to define a free side edge portion which can be grasped during removal of the release sheet.

29. The method according to claim 26 wherein the remaining strip release portion has an outer free edge that extends beyond the fibrous floor covering material and the attachment layer to provide a free side edge portion for grasping during removal of the release sheet.

30. The method according to claim 29 wherein the outer free edge that extends beyond the attachment layer carries markings indicative of a direction of pile of the layer of fibrous floor covering material that is visible from the fibrous floor covering material side during installation.

31. The method according to claim 26 wherein the positioning strip release portion is located between two remaining strip release portions that are each disposed along a respective edge of the strip.

32. The method according to claim 31 wherein the positioning strip release portion has two side edges each of which overlaps with and covers a side edge of a respective one of the remaining strip release portions.

33. The method according to claim 31 wherein each of the two remaining strip release portions has an outer free edge that extends beyond the attachment layer to provide a free side edge portion which extends beyond the fibrous floor covering material for grasping to facilitate removal of the release sheet.

34. The method according to claim 33 wherein the outer free side edge portion that extends beyond the attachment layer carries markings indicative of a direction of pile of the layer of fibrous floor covering material.